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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 3/7/19

SPONSOR Sedillo Lopez LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Driver's Licenses & ID to Older Adults SM 93

ANALYST Hawker

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY19	FY20	FY21	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total		Indeterminate but minimal				

Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files
 National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)
 U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 93 requires MVD convene a working group to research and refine best practices, policies and procedures concerning the issuance and denial of driver's licenses and state identification cards to older adults.

MVD is to invite representatives from ALTSD, DOH, DOT, HSD, DPS, gerontology specialists, AARP New Mexico, American Civil Liberties Union of New Mexico and members of disabled and senior populations that utilize state and municipal ride services to the working group.

Findings and conclusions are to be presented to the appropriate interim legislative committee by October 1, 2019.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

MVD staff will be required to convene the working group to research and refine best practices and prepare findings and conclusions.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Per statistics from the Federal Highway Administration in 2016, 15.9 percent of New Mexico’s licensed drivers were over the age of 65; 2.9 percent were over the age of 80.

According to NCSL:

“Older drivers use seat belts, rarely speed and are less likely than other age groups to drive while impaired. Females are more likely than males to self-restrict driving as they age: they are more likely to limit drives to familiar and lower speed routes, not drive in inclement weather, at night or in heavy traffic. On the other hand, AAA notes that age-related decline in vision, hearing and cognitive functioning, along with physical changes, may affect driving ability. In addition, older drivers are more likely to become seriously injured in a crash due to increased frailty, and more likely to have long-term implications or death from their injury due to increased fragility (less likely to recover from a serious injury). Medical conditions, such as heart disease and diabetes, may make it more difficult for older drivers to heal from a traffic crash-related injury.”

VKH/al